

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-13. (cancelled)

14. (currently amended) The ~~slide-valve~~ hydraulic system of claim [13] 24, wherein the head is supported in a sealed manner in the slide bore.

15. (currently amended) The ~~slide-valve~~ hydraulic system of claim [13] 24, wherein the head divides the slide bore into a vented chamber.

16. (currently amended) The ~~slide-valve~~ hydraulic system of claim [13] 24, further including a compression spring to pre-tension the slide, the spring including a first end abutting the head and a second end abutting an abutment.

17. (currently amended) The ~~slide-valve~~ hydraulic system of claim 16, wherein the abutment is adjustable.

18. (currently amended) The ~~slide-valve~~ hydraulic system of claim 16, wherein the compression spring is arranged in a chamber.

19. (currently amended) The ~~slide-valve~~ hydraulic system of claim [13] 24, wherein the blocking portion is connected to the head by a pin portion having a diameter that is smaller than a diameter of the blocking portion.

20. (cancelled)

21. (cancelled)

22. (currently amended) The ~~slide-valve~~ hydraulic system of claim [13] 24, wherein the blocking portion has a diameter which is slightly smaller than a diameter of a section of the slide

bore accommodating the head, such that the slide bore defines a damping gap with the blocking portion when the blocking portion is moved toward the blocking position.

23. (currently amended) The ~~slide valve~~ hydraulic system of claim [13] 24, wherein the diameter of the slide bore is at least as large as the diameter of the passage channel.

24. (currently amended) A hydraulic system including a hydraulic pump, a load, at least two branches parallel to each other, and at least one slide valve arranged in one of the branches, the slide valve comprising:

a valve housing having a passage channel with a slide bore extending in a direction transverse to the passage channel; and

a slide ~~having a head supported within and longitudinally movable relative to in the slide bore between an open position and a blocking position, so as to be movable in a longitudinal direction and to be subjected to fluid pressure prevailing in the passage channel, the slide also having a head, a blocking portion defining the blocking position, and a pin portion connecting the head to the blocking portion and defining the open position which is connected with the head and, as a result of this connection, is adjustable with the head between a blocking position and a clearing position, wherein the blocking portion divides the slide bore into a chamber,~~

wherein at least one channel is provided that permits fluid communication between the chamber and the passage channel, thereby allowing the chamber to be subjected to the fluid pressure prevailing in the passage channel,

wherein, when the pressure in the passage channel exceeds a predetermined fluid pressure, the slide moves to its blocking position.

25. (cancelled)

26. (cancelled)

27. (new) The hydraulic system of claim 24, further comprising a compression spring for providing a spring force that urges the slide toward the open position against the fluid pressure in the passage channel, wherein the spring force is sized such that:

when the fluid pressure prevailing within the passage channel is less than the predetermined fluid pressure, the slide remains in its open position, and

when the fluid pressure prevailing within the passage channel is greater than the predetermined fluid pressure, the slide moves to its blocking position.

28. (new) The hydraulic system of claim 24, wherein the at least one channel is provided in the blocking portion of the slide.

29. (new) The hydraulic system of claim 24, wherein the at least one channel includes a bypass channel provided in the valve housing upstream from the slide.

30. (new) A hydraulic system comprising:

- a hydraulic pump,

- an actuator for moving a load;

- a control valve fluidly connected to the actuator;

- at least two branches fluidly connected between the pump and the control valve, each branch including at least one damper; and

- a pressure sensitive, shut-off valve provided in one of the branches, the shut-off valve including:

 - a valve housing having a passage channel with a slide bore extending in a direction traverse to the passage channel, and

 - a slide supported in the slide bore so as to be moveable in the traverse direction within the slide bore between an open position permitting flow through the passage channel and a closing position preventing flow through the passage channel,

 - wherein the slide is configured to switch from its open position to its closed position when the pressure in the passage channel exceeds a predetermined pressure limit.

31. (new) The hydraulic system of claim 30, wherein the shut-off valve is provided between the pump and the damper.

32. (new) The hydraulic system of claim 30, wherein the slide includes a head, a blocking portion that defines the blocking position, and a pin portion that connects the head to the blocking portion and defines the open position.

33. (new) The hydraulic system of claim 32, wherein the blocking portion divides the slide bore into a chamber, wherein at least one channel is provided that permits fluid communication between the chamber and the passage channel, thereby allowing the chamber to be subjected to the fluid pressure prevailing in the passage channel,

wherein, when the pressure in the passage channel exceeds a predetermined pressure limit, the slide moves from its open position to its blocking position.

34. (new) The hydraulic system of claim 33, wherein the at least one channel is provided in the blocking portion of the slide.

35. (new) The hydraulic system of claim 33, wherein the at least one channel includes a bypass channel provided in the valve housing.

36. (new) The hydraulic system of claim 30, further comprising a compression spring for providing a spring force that urges the slide toward the open position against the fluid pressure in the passage channel, wherein the spring force is sized such that:

when the pressure prevailing within the passage channel is less than the predetermined pressure limit, the slide remains in its open position, and

when the pressure prevailing within the passage channel is greater than the predetermined pressure limit, the slide moves from its open position to its blocking position.

37. (new) A pressure sensitive, shut-off valve for use in a hydraulic system including a hydraulic pump, an actuator for moving a load, a control valve fluidly connected to the actuator, and at least two branches fluidly connected between the pump and the control valve, each of which includes at least one damper and one of which includes the pressure sensitive, shut-off valve, wherein the pressure sensitive, shut-off valve comprises:

a valve housing having a passage channel with a slide bore extending in a direction traverse to the passage channel,

a slide supported in the slide bore so as to be moveable in the traverse direction within the slide bore between an open position permitting flow through the passage channel and a closing position preventing flow through the passage channel, wherein the slide includes a head, a blocking portion that defines the blocking position, and a pin portion that connects the head to the blocking portion and defines the open position, wherein the slide is configured to switch from its open position to its closed position when the pressure in the passage channel exceeds a predetermined pressure limit; and

a compression spring for providing a spring force that urges the slide toward the open position against the fluid pressure in the passage channel, wherein the spring force is sized such that:

when the pressure prevailing within the passage channel is less than the predetermined pressure limit, the slide remains in its open position, and

when the pressure prevailing within the passage channel is greater than the predetermined pressure limit, the slide moves from its open position to its blocking position.

38. (new) The hydraulic system of claim 37, wherein the blocking portion divides the slide bore into a chamber, wherein at least one channel is provided that permits fluid communication between the chamber and the passage channel, thereby allowing the chamber to be subjected to the fluid pressure prevailing in the passage channel,

wherein, when the pressure in the passage channel exceeds a predetermined pressure limit, the slide moves from its open position to its blocking position.

39. (new) The hydraulic system of claim 38, wherein the at least one channel is provided in the blocking portion of the slide.

40. (new) The hydraulic system of claim 38, wherein the at least one channel includes a bypass channel provided in the valve housing upstream from the slide.